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THE DAILY BEAT

This publication is provided by the [Governor's Office of Indian Affairs](#) and the [State-Tribal Economic Development Commission](#).

The Daily Beat provides daily updates, announcements and articles relevant to Indian Country in Montana. Current and archived issues can be found on the [State-Tribal Economic Development Commission](#) website. Questions? Email Billie Rusek @ brusek@mt.gov or

Heather Sobrepeña-George at hsobrepena@mt.gov

MONTANA TRIBAL NEWS:

LANGUAGE TEACHER TRAINING HELD AT LONGHOUSE

By MAGGIE PLUMMER, CharKoosta News 07/30/07)



Joyce Silverthorne and April Charlo had fun playing the lazer pointing game during last week's Salish language teacher training in St. Ignatius. (Maggie Plummer photo)

ST. IGNATIUS — It's the picture of contrast: the latest computer technology being used to revitalize a traditional language that's thousands of years old.

New computer software is just one of the tools used by Salish language teachers on Washington's Kalispel Reservation.

Two of them visited St. Ignatius last week for an Aug. 15 language training at the Longhouse, sponsored and organized by the Native American Language Teacher Training Institute.

About 30 people attended the training, which was part of an ongoing exchange between Salish teachers on the Flathead and Kalispell reservations.

FUNDS AVAILABLE FOR ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

By HOLLY MICHELS, The Montana Standard – (09/05/2007)

Butte-Silver Bow County has issued its request for proposals for the single-mill economic development levy.

The funds — \$65,000 — can be awarded to organizations that promote economic development in Butte.

Groups interested in the money can apply by submitting a proposal to council by Sept. 26.

FWP, WILDLIFE OFFICIALS INVESTIGATING POISONING OF EAGLES NEAR CHOTEAU

By TRIBUNE STAFF, Great Falls Tribune (07/30/07)

Fish, Wildlife & Parks said Tuesday that they and federal wildlife officials are investigating the death of four eagles that were poisoned last spring.

In April, an FWP game warden received a call from a concerned landowner about several dead birds in a field northeast of Choteau.

The dead birds turned out to be three golden eagles and a bald eagle. They died from eating poisoned meat.

The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service became involved because the birds are protected under state and federal laws.

STUDENT ASSISTANCE FOUNDATION, MONTANA CHAMBER OFFER SCHOLARSHIPS

By TRIBUNE STAFF, Great Falls Tribune (09/05/07)

The Student Assistance Foundation and the Montana Chamber Foundation will award up to \$18,000 in scholarships to the top three winning Montana high schools for both the fall and spring semesters of the High School Business Challenge during the 2007-08 school year.

High School Business Challenge is a computer-simulated business education program sponsored by businesses, foundations and individuals in schools across the state. The eight-week competition has replaced "Business Week" held previously during summer months. HSBC is now an extracurricular Montana high school business learning tool with more than 65 schools and 1,500 students participating annually.

For more information about HSBC, go to www.montanachamber.com or contact Kerry Schaefer, High School Business Challenge coordinator, at 406-463-2370, schaefer@3rivers.net.

MAJEL TAKES POST AS SECOND IN COMMAND AT BIA

By Indian Country Today (08/31/07)®

Reaching outside the BIA for his second in command, assistant secretary for Indian affairs Carl Artman has hired Majel Russel as the bureau's principal deputy assistant secretary.

Russell, a Crow graduate of the University of Montana School of Law, class of 1991, brings a breadth of experience to her post as Artman's principal adviser. She has worked in Indian country as a lead prosecutor, policy expert, legal counsel and constitutional revisionist.

Russell takes over from acting principal deputy George Skibine, who will remain within the parent Interior Department, concentrating on his specialty of Indian gaming.

CONGRESS CHANGES SACAGAWEA DOLLAR

By JIM ABRAMS, Washington Post (09/04/07)

WASHINGTON -- Congress on Tuesday approved a redesign of the Sacagawea dollar in hopes of enticing consumer and business use of the gold-colored dollar.

Under legislation passed by voice vote in the House and sent to President Bush for his signature, new editions of the coin honoring the young Shoshone who helped Lewis and Clark on their trek to the Pacific Ocean more than 200 years ago will come out in 2009.

The new coins will continue to depict Sacagawea and her child, but they will feature scenes on the reverse side, changed annually, commemorating the achievements of other Native Americans and Indian tribes.

CROW TRIBAL MEMBERS ACHIEVE HOMEOWNERSHIP

Montana HomeOwnership Network Newsletter (Summer 07 issue)

Crow Tribal members on and off the reservation are becoming homeowners due to a concerted effort by the Apsaalooke Housing Authority (Crow tribally sponsored housing entity), the Crow Economic Development Department and many other agencies.

Twenty-three tribal members have used HUD 184 financing to become homeowners in the past 18 months, with 18 arranging financing through the tribal financing pool. The Apsaalooke Housing Authority has declared the entire state of Montana as its service area, thereby allowing an enrolled member of any tribe to get a HUD 184 loan, which provides 100% federally guaranteed loans to homeowners and allow them to save in mortgage insurance. Kirt LaForge, Crow Tribal members Benefits Counselor, gives Lyle Konkel of the Montana HUD office much of the credit for the increase in Indian homeownership.

NEW RULE MAY ALTER SMALL-BUSINESS CONTRACTING

By ELISE CASTELLI , Federal Times (09/04/07)

Companies owned by American Indians are now more attractive contractors for the government. And that's got small businesses scared.

That's because a new federal rule allows agencies to count American Indian-owned companies toward small business subcontracting targets no matter how big those companies may be.

Agencies each have specific targets to meet each year for how many dollars they steer to various categories of small businesses in the form of prime contracts and subcontracts.

But federal agencies have struggled at meeting those targets. In 2006, for example, agencies directed 35 percent of their subcontracting dollars to small businesses, well shy of the 40 percent mandated by law. Small-business advocates fear that under the rule, agencies will award more contracts to large American Indian-owned companies because they can get the benefits and convenience of working with a large contractor yet still get credit toward their small-business contracting goals.

The rule benefits companies owned by American Indians and Alaskan Natives. It does not, however, apply to companies owned by Hawaiian natives.

EVENTS:

28TH ANNUAL MONTANA ARBITRATION TRAINING & LABOR RELATIONS CONFERENCE

When: September 19, 20, 21

Where: Park Plaza Hotel (Helena, MT)

Co-Sponsored by:

- Montana Arbitrator's Association
- National Labor Relations Board
- Montana Board of Personnel Appeals
- Federal Mediation & Conciliation Service
- Montana Dept. of Labor & Industry
- Montana State Bar Dispute Resolution Committee

Register online at www.mtlaborrelationsconf.com

MONTANA ARTISTS REFUGE AMERICAN INDIAN RESIDENCY AND SYMPOSIUM

When: September 28th - 30th

Where: Basin, Montana

Four Indian artists from Montana and other states will spend the month of September at the Refuge taking advantage of full financial packages: living and creating, free from the demands of their busy, everyday lives.

This year's artists include Sherwin Bitsui, Navajo poet; DG House, Cherokee painter; Rabbit Knows Gun, Crow painter and photographer; Merle Big Bow, Chippewa Cree sculptor and painter.

The Refuge can fund travel, lodging and per diem for up to 10 Montana Indian artists for the weekend.

These artists will be chosen in an application process on a first come-first served basis. All artists will have access to gallery space in Basin to show their work, and will be given an opportunity to show slides and discuss their work with the audience.

For application or more information, please contact:

Montana Artist Refuge
PO Box 8
Basin, MT 59631
406-225-3500 (tel/fax)
mar@mt.net
www.montanarefuge.org



EMPLOYMENT:

TRIBAL COORDINATOR, POSITION #04751 DPHHS,

Director's Office, Helena. **SALARY:** \$34,651 - \$43,314 annually DOQ. **Application Deadline:** State of Montana Applications can be submitted to any local Job Service or Human Resources- DPHHS, PO Box 4210 (111 Sanders, Room 202), Helena, MT. Applications may also be emailed to hhsea@mt.gov or faxed (406) 444-0262. This position will be open until filled. To be considered for the first review, applications must be received or postmarked if mailed no later than **5:00 p.m., Thursday September 20, 2007** For further information visit the DPHHS website: www.dphhs.mt.gov/jobs

TYPICAL DUTIES: This position serves as the department's technical authority in working with tribes to identify and resolve barriers regarding Medicaid eligibility for tribes to access health care services to leverage Medicaid federal financial participation and Medicaid. The position is responsible for developing and administering the department's tribal coordination program including the internal and external relationships, purposes, funding and missions of tribal services for human services programs; recommends system changes needed to support a comprehensive infrastructure within DPHHS to adopt an organizational framework capable of coordinating tribal efforts relating to Medicaid; and serves as an advisor and technical resource to the department and will consult with the divisions and use division staff as a resource relating to duties and responsibilities.